

Construction orange will be the color of the week, as National Work Zone Safety Awareness begins April 7th. Local events are planned throughout the commonwealth, bringing attention to the dangers of work zones, both for motorists and workers.

In 2006, there were 1,010 work zone fatalities nationally. That figure compares with 1,074 in 2005 and 1,068 in 2004. According to the Federal Highway Administration, more than 40,000 people are injured yearly in work zones. Nearly 85 percent of those killed are motorists.

According to National Work Zone Safety Information Clearinghouse and Kentucky Transportation Cabinet statistics, there were approximately 15 fatalities in Kentucky work zones in 2006; 12 of which were in construction zones.

As highway construction season gears up, the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet encourages workers and motorists alike to heed the warning signs. Slow down and drive smart. That's someone's mom or dad out there!